



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 2003

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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### OHIO, North

OHZ012>014

Lake - Geauga - Ashtabula

04	0900EST 1300EST	0	0	150K	Strong Wind
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A strong cold front moved across northeastern Ohio early in the day. Gusty westerly winds occurred behind this front and downed trees and power lines throughout Ashtabula, Geauga and Lake Counties during the late morning and early afternoon hours. A peak measured gust of 47 mph was recorded at the Ashtabula County Airport.

OHZ007-009>012-014

Ottawa - Erie - Lorain - Cuyahoga - Lake - Ashtabula

12	0000EST 0500EST	0	0	1.3M	High Wind (G55)
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A strong arctic cold front moved across northern Ohio during the early morning hours. A peak wind gust of 63 mph was measured in Garfield Heights (Cuyahoga County) at 1:29 a.m. Other measured gusts include; 61 mph at Cleveland-Burke Lakefront Airport, 60 mph at North Ridgeville (Lorain County) and 56 mph at the Lorain County Airport. The strong winds downed trees and power lines all along the south shore of Lake Erie. Six train cars were blown off of a bridge over Sandusky Bay (Ottawa County) around 1 a.m. A semi was blown over in Benton Township (Ottawa County) near the intersection of State Routes 2 and 590. In Erie County, a 40 by 60 foot section of metal roofing was torn off of a building located along U.S. Route 6 to the southeast of Sandusky.

OHZ032>033-038-047

Stark - Mahoning - Holmes - Knox

16 17	0700EST 1800EST	0	0	2.6M	Heavy Snow
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An intense area of low pressure moved from the Tennessee Valley northeast across eastern Ohio. Snow associated with this low spread northeast into the area on the morning of the 16th. Periods of moderate to heavy snow then continued through the afternoon of the 17th. The most intense snow fell late in the day on the 16th with accumulations reaching six inches by late in the evening. Gusty winds accompanied the snow and caused near whiteout conditions along with considerable blowing and drifting snow. Total accumulations ranged from 9 to 12 inches with the highest amounts in the southern portions of Knox, Holmes, Stark and Mahoning Counties. Drifts several feet deep were also reported and travel was severely hampered by this storm.

OHZ003-006>009-017>018 Lucas - Wood - Ottawa - Sandusky - Erie - Hancock - Seneca

22 23	1500EST 0800EST	0	0	5.0M	Heavy Snow
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Low pressure moved across southeastern Ohio spreading precipitation northward across the region. The precipitation initially began as rain but quickly changed to snow during the afternoon hours of the 22nd. Some freezing rain also fell in Seneca and Erie Counties and ice accumulations of up to a quarter of an inch occurred in these counties. Once the snow began, it quickly intensified and whiteout conditions were reported during the evening hours. The snow continued through daybreak on the 23rd and then quickly tapered to flurries. Total snow accumulations ranged from around six inches in southern Hancock and western Erie Counties to nine inches in Lucas County. Strong northerly winds with occasional gusts to 40 mph accompanied the snow and caused considerable blowing and drifting. Drifts as high as 3 to 5 feet were observed in Lucas and Wood Counties.

### PENNSYLVANIA, Northwest

PAZ001>003

Northern Erie - Southern Erie - Crawford

04	0930EST 1300EST	0	0	350K	Strong Wind
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A strong cold front moved across northwestern Pennsylvania early in the day. Gusty westerly winds occurred behind this front and downed trees and power lines throughout Erie and Crawford Counties during the middle part of the day. A peak measured gust of 53 mph was recorded at Erie International Airport at 10:22 a.m. with a 46 mph gust at Meadville. A car was destroyed just south of



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		Local/ Standard	Length (Miles)	Width (Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

### PENNSYLVANIA, Northwest

Erie when a large pole fell on it. A second pole was toppled northeast of Erie and at least one home and one car were damaged by fallen trees in Erie.

PAZ001>002

**Northern Erie - Southern Erie**

<b>12</b>	<b>0100EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85K</b>	<b>High Wind (G53)</b>
	<b>0600EST</b>				

A strong arctic cold front moved across northwestern Pennsylvania during the early morning hours. A peak wind gust of 61 mph was measured at Franklin Center at 2:17 a.m with a 54 mph gust at Erie International Airport at 3:06 a.m. The strong winds downed trees and power lines throughout Erie County.

PAZ001>002

**Northern Erie - Southern Erie**

<b>24</b>	<b>0900EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>75K</b>	<b>Heavy Snow</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>0300EST</b>				

Cold winds blowing across Lake Erie caused lake effect snow showers to develop. The snow began on the morning of the 24th and continued on and off through the early mornings hours of the 25th. The heaviest snow fell around midnight on the 25th when visibilities fell to near zero. Total accumulations ranged from 6 to 7 inches with most of this accumulation falling from the late evening through early morning hours.